

COBBETT'S WEEKLY POLITICAL REGISTER.

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POOR-LAW STRUGGLE.

Normandy, 10. June, 1835.

FOR it really appears to be another "RURAL WAR," and threatens to be much more durable and mischievous than the last rural war; and there is this circumstance in addition, in this case; that is to say, that this new scene of trouble, of turmoil, and of boiling blood, has been caused by the Parliament itself; that Parliament duly warned by me of all the consequences. In this respect it is another PEELE's-Bill affair. The proposition is made in the year 1833; the projectors are then warned, and are besought not to adopt the measure; they persevere a great deal more eagerly on account of the warning and the prediction, as if for the express purpose of making the prophet a liar. Half-a-dozen counties are in a state of partial commotion; the jails are opening the doors to receive those who are called the rebels against the Poor-law Bill! No matter as to any other thing relative to this measure; here is the country disturbed; here are the jails filling; here are wives and children screaming after their fathers; here are these undeniable facts; and what is the cause? Not a desire to over-

turn the Government on the part of the people; not a desire to disobey the settled laws of the country; not any revolutionary desire; not any desire to touch any one of the institutions of the country. What is it then? Why a desire and a resolution, as far as they are able to adhere to it, to maintain the laws of their country, as they were settled at the time when the present church of the country was established; to maintain those laws which form the foundation, the very fundamental principles of the Government; and which are of two hundred and forty years' standing.

Well, but laying aside for the present the merits or demerits of this measure, no one will deny that it is now the cause of great alarm and great trouble to the Government. We shall by-and-by see the Duke of RICHMOND selling off from divers workhouses all utensils for *brewing*, for grinding malt, for *killing and preserving meat*; we shall by-and-by see this LEVIATHAN-PENSIONER at this amusing work; we shall by-and-by hear a poor-law commissioner advising the guardians to look upon and treat poor persons coming for relief as "*beggars*"; we shall by-and-by hear a *peer-chairman* complaining of the *destruction of cattle*, and of fires being set; we shall by-and-by have to take a sort of survey of the blood-boiling in Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Kent, Sussex, and Suffolk. But, just at present, let us repeat, that every one knows, that this is at present *the great immediate cause of trouble to the Government*. When old GREY, who

was all thunder and all vigour, as long as he had cunning ALTHORP's majority at his back, and who became all feebleness and old age and incapacity as soon as he had lost that; when old GREY went snivelling off (having first not wholly forgotten his family), he complained of the *difficulties* in which the Government was placed; and it was curious enough that he had vigour enough left to offer, at *that very moment, to bring in the Poor-law Bill, which had been passed by t'other place*. That is to say, to make a greater difficulty than any that already existed, or than any that could by any possibility exist, short of an open and notorious rebellion and civil war.

There is no doubt in my mind that, with regard to the mere *expense*, this Poor-law Bill will cost more than the amount of the poor-rates themselves; that is to say, more than the amount of what ever has been given, during a similar time, in real and *bona fide* relief to the poor. The thing is manifestly only beginning. Even the foundation of none of the grand workhouses is yet dug out. Two-thousand-a-year LEWIS's scouts are at work; they are writing letters and making speeches; the pensioners and parsons and dead-weight are all in a stir. But, as yet, they appear to have laid hands upon nobody but the feeble and the aged, and the poor girls, by whom the lords, their relations, the parsons, the big merchants, the tradesmen and farmers in general, the footmen, the grooms, the coachmen, the huntsmen, the Bourbon-policemen, the soldiers, the retired-allo- wance people, the pensioners, all the swarms of tax-eaters can now have *bastards with impunity*.

It is with the young and single men that two-thousand-a-year LEWIS, penny-a-line CHADWICK and their crew will have to deal; or their dealings are not worth a straw. Cunning ALTHORP said that he should recommend that the bill *should not be attempted to be carried into effect until on the eve of hay-making*, when work would be plenty; and so get the bill silently poked into operation in form, when it was not to operate in fact. What would cunning ALTHORP think of a *refusal of all the men of any parish either to cut grass, or to cut corn*? What would cunning ALTHORP think, if this were to extend itself over a county? Cunning ALTHORP knows that there is no law to compel them to cut the grass or the corn; that there is no law but the law of self-interest; and cunning ALTHORP knows, too, that this is a thing always in the power of the people; that every man has a right to keep his limbs in a state of inactivity if he choose; and cunning ALTHORP knows that if this were to take place, his right of voting *by proxy* would not make the hay and bring in the harvest. This would be one way of answering the insolent poor-law runner, who wishes the labourers to be treated as "*beggars*."

But again, let the turmoil be what it may; let the consequences be what they may, let it never be forgotten that this is a "*difficulty*" created by the reformed Parliament itself, at the suggestion of old GREY and of ALTHORP. Let it be recollected that this is a *difficulty* of their own creating. Be the consequence what it may, it is their own work. The weather is fine now; at this season of the year few men want the means of obtain-

ing a meal of victuals; let November come, and then let STRATHFIELDSAY tell us, that all that we have to ask about the matter is, *whether it be the law or not*. Well said, STRATHFIELDSAY! It was a famous law that gave you nearly a million of the people's money, for not being beaten at NEW ORLEANS. But laws can be changed surely now. If the law of ELIZABETH can be abrogated, surely we may deal freely with other laws.

However, here is the difficulty come. That which is going on at present is a mere beginning. And I verily believe that the bare expenses occasioned by this bill will be greater than the amount of the relief given to the poor. We should never lose sight of the *reasons* for the bringing in, the pushing on, and the passing, of this bill; the reasons given by the aristocracy and the money-mongers, and their swarms of tools. We must not lose sight of these reasons by any means, and must bring the base advocates of the bill everlastingly back to them, particularly as they are extremely anxious to keep these reasons out of sight now. A hireling fellow, of the name of JOHN LESLIE, who has the governing of the poor in the parish of St. GEORGE, Hanover-square, has written a pamphlet in praise of the Poor-law Bill. Two-and-thirty rich or titled fellows of the parish have published it under their names, and have told the public, that they have caused six thousand copies of it to be printed at their own expense, for the purpose of circulation. Amongst these fellows are the Earl of EUSTON, Earl of DARLINGTON, Earl AMHERST, Viscount MELBOURNE, Earl COWPER, Earl of ESSEX, who are here in company with the fa-

mous *right honourable* STURGES BOURNE. These fellows make themselves responsible for the whole of the contents of this pamphlet. Everything that it asserts, they assert. It asserts this: "The great object of the Poor-law Amendment Act was to improve the *moral* and *social* condition of the labouring poor of England." That is an impudent lie! That is an impudent lie, you impudent fellows. Big and brazen as you are, here I tell you that you put forth a most impudent, a most barefaced lie. The bill was brought forward to you, amongst yourselves, in your own House, and amongst us, in our House, with the distinct allegation (repeated for about the thousandth time), that the measure was necessary to PREVENT THE POOR FROM SWALLOWING UP THE ESTATES OF THE LANDLORDS! It is a base and infamous lie, therefore, to say that its object was to *improve* the condition of the poor. Let this be remembered that this is a base and infamous lie, for the purpose of getting rid of the imputation of the real motive.

It is not very easy, perhaps, to come at what you mean by "*social condition*." The word "*social*," means, *relating to society*. So that this word, as used by you, means, *mending the state of the poorer sort of people*: it means *making them better off*; it means, *giving them a better share than they now have in the good things enjoyed by society at large*. Now, you certifiers of the truth of as base a bundle of lies as ever were put together, do you not well know, that this measure was intended to make the people of the midland and south of England live upon a COARSER SORT OF

FOOD? I charged the bill with being brought forward with this intention. ALTHORP said that there was no such intention described in the bill. "No," said I, "not described in the bill; but you give power to yourselves, or to your creatures, who are to be called commissioners, to do what they please in this respect; they will be sure to do what you please they should do; and it is your intention to reduce the working people to a coarser sort of food." "No," said ALTHORP. Then I said this: "I have information which causes me firmly to believe, and I do believe, that the barrister who drew the bill received written instructions for the drawing of it; and that, amongst those instructions, one was, so to frame it as that it might be favourable to the desire which was entertained by the authors of the bill, to cause the working-people, or the poor people (which ever it was) to live upon a COARSER SORT OF FOOD." ALTHORP actually denied this; or, at least, cunningly gave it the go-by, or spoke of it as if it were not true. You have seen a pig, reader, when he is at something which he knows well ought to bring him a stroke across the nose: you have seen the workings of his cunning, sharp eyes, to ascertain whether there be a stick at hand. Never did pig look more cunning than ALTHORP looked when he had wrapped up this staggering assertion of mine. "Well, then," said I, "since the fact is not fairly acknowledged, I move that a copy of the instructions to the bill-drawing barrister be laid upon the table of this House." Honest ALTHORP was a great deal too cunning to agree to that motion. It was, therefore, impossible not to believe the truth of my statement, which, indeed, I knew to be true. Well, then, EUSTON and DARLINGTON and AMHERST and MELBOURNE and COWPER and ESSEX, with the word Earl stuck before your names, and with STURGES BOURNE strung at the heels of the list: well, then, I say, is it to improve men's condition in society, to compel them to come down to a "coarser sort of food"? Oh! you "noble" certifiers; you fine "noble" pensioners, certifiers of the truth of a

base, lying pamphlet, say at once, with all the high-sounding brass that belongs to you, that it is to improve a man's condition in society to reduce him to a coarser sort of food than that which he now lives upon! Oh, no! you tinkling brass! This was not the "great object" of the Poor-law Amendment Act. And now I will tell you what the great object was; or, rather, indeed, I will explain what the authors of the bill meant by "swallowing up the estates of the landlords."

This singular race of beggars, called English landlords, have, in fact, generally speaking, no estates; that is to say, they have no ownership in the rents of those estates. They have a great share in the taxes, generally speaking: they have it in military, naval, diplomatic, sinecure, pension, parsonship, something or another; but these, though enormous in aggregate amount, are principally grasped by a comparative few; and, upon the whole, the havings in this way do not at all equal the amount of the rents of the estates. The money-mongers take those rents almost entirely, whether in interest of mortgage, or in taxes. The money-mongers own more than half the estates as mortgagees: they are every day bundling out the old stinking aristocracy, who have basely abandoned the working-people. These old wretches, not able to sell and alienate for ever, first get away out of their mansions and sell their goods to get a ready penny: turn graziers, and, as carcass-butchers, send their venison to London to be eaten by the Jews, who have got the mortgages on their estates. They next think of the GAME! All ideas of feudal honour fly from their minds. No longer the old pretence that the game is kept for sport, and that none but gentlemen ought to possess game. After punishing men for two hundred years for selling or buying game, they pass a law to enable themselves to sell game, or to buy it, while they pass another law to transport a poor man, if he be in pursuit of it in the night-time.

This trade of carcass-butcher and poulterer brings them a little relief; and enables them to live at Boulogne, or amongst the "enchanted beauties" of

the Swiss Cantons, and the "high-state" of morals there existing amongst the "peasantry." Still the carcass-butcher-ing and the poultering do not yield enough to satisfy their wives, who probably have brought them a good supply. They re-sort to marriages with the daughters of contracting butchers, millionaire loan-mongers, old miser-jewellers, and the stock-jobbing crew, to say nothing of play-actresses in high feather, on whom they very frequently live until their voices get cracked; and then they abandon them to be buried by subscription; though it now and then happens that one of these women has the spirit to abandon them, and leave them to the enjoyment of their titles and their empty pockets.

The reformed Parliament having, at any rate, blasted the hopes of getting at new heaps of spoil from the public purse; and the beggars finding that they have over-drawn with the poulterer and the retail butcher of their carcasses, look back again at the estates; and we will suppose my Lord LUMPSKULL sitting down with his steward to see if nothing is to be got out of the estate, and finally coming to the necessity of a Poor-law Bill. There has been a *run* upon the shabby tawdry goods in town: my lady has almost been routed: down he comes to the village of STARVE-GUT; squats himself down in a rage in a

broken-bottomed rush-chair, in a cob-webbed room where the servants used to be, and sends away for the steward, some skeleton that he finds chopping about among the weeds in that garden where his grandfather had one gentleman employed with a dozen men under him, and two or three boys apprenticed to him, all which the "heddekated" son has discovered to have been excessively extravagant and foolish. Comes the steward upon a horse worth a hundred pounds; and his servant in gay and rich livery, having taken away his horse, in he walks.

LORD LUMPSKULL. Well, Mr. SCUT, I am come with a resolution to settle with you upon the means of my getting something out of this estate. Have you got the rent-roll?

SCUT Yes, my lord, here it is.

LUMPSKULL. Let us see; here is one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve farms; and here is a rental of four thousand, seven hundred, and twenty-seven pounds a year; and yet I am living like a beggar; and, at this very moment the miserable furniture in my town-house is pawned.

SCUT. Very sorry for it, my lord; but you see, if you look at this paper, that the rent is all taken up, and that I have your order for paying every farthing of it away. The account stands thus:

Dr.	£
Interest of Mortgage to Christ-killer.....	2,500
Interest of Mortgage to Paper-kite and Co.....	1,400
Law Expenses, Stamps, and opinion of Counsel	450
Own Salary, and arrears, with interest on arrears	302
Three Journeys to London for self and clerk to take your instructions, and consult Counsel.....	82
	<hr/>
	4,734

Cr.	£
Rents	4,728
Balance to be carried to next account.....	6
	<hr/>
	4,734

LORD LUMPSKULL. But, Mr. SCUT, was it necessary to pay all this money in law?

SCUT. Why, my lord, you know with what difficulty I got the money; and if you knew what I have been obliged to resort to, to prevent that scoundrel CHRIST-KILLER from foreclosing and actually blotting your lordship out of the county, I am sure you would think nothing of the trifle that I have been obliged to charge for myself.

LUMPSKULL. Well, I see, then, that we can do nothing if we cannot raise the rents.

SCUT. Raise the rents, my lord, with wheat at *four shillings* a bushel!

LUMPSKULL. Yes; and that is the very thing that I am come about. You know my Lord CRACKSKULL, don't you?

SCUT. Oh, yes! most of us know enough about him!

LUMPSKULL. Yes, yes; but though addicted to laudanum and brandy, and though with features none of the most human, he is a very clever man, I can assure you; and he has told me how we ought to go to work to "*prevent our estates from being swallowed up.*"

SCUT. So you told me in your letter, my lord; but I greatly doubt of it. I have got you, however, a paper, showing the outgoings of farmer STYLES, which stand as follows:

Rent to my lord	£ 200
Tithes	40
Poor-rates	60
Blacksmith	10
Wheelwright	7
Wear and tear of horses, tackle, &c.	15
Labour of all sorts, except tradesmen	320

£ 652

LORD LUMPSKULL. Ah! here you see the cause of my poverty. It is all nothing, you see, except what goes to the poor; the "sturdy beggars" called the poor; and then to them again, under the name of labourers. What a scandalous thing! Here you see these wretches are taking from this farmer three hundred

and eighty pounds a year, while I get but two hundred out of the same estate and the estate is my own.

SCUT. Yes, my lord; but you know that the working-people *must live*!

LUMPSKULL. (*Hastily*). Why! what for?

SCUT. Why, my lord, to make your farm *worth something*.

LUMPSKULL. Worth something! why d—n the vermin! how do they make worth anything?

SCUT. Your lordship must know, that if STYLES had not people to cultivate his farm, he could not pay you any rent at all. Besides, my lord, do you not know that these labourers pay away half their earnings in taxes? Don't you know that the Government takes from them half the amount of their earnings; makes them too poor ever to be able to lay a farthing; and that, therefore, when age, or sickness, or very numerous families come, they are compelled to come to rates for relief.

LUMPSKULL. Very true, Mr SCUT, they must be men to work upon the ground to be sure.

SCUT. Yes; and you cannot have men to work upon the ground without having women and children to live near it, or it; and they must eat and drink and have clothing, too; for there must be a succession of men, or else no successors to your estate.

LUMPSKULL. But then, Mr. SCUT, though these labourers are necessary, it is necessary that they should eat and drink so much, and should have bread like us? You see, if these fellows and their families lived upon a COARSER SORT OF FOOD, I might pay them one hundred a year, instead of three hundred and twenty; and then he would have a hundred a year more to give me; that is the very thing that I am come about.

SCUT. But, my lord, in order to have them to live upon the hundred a year instead of the three hundred and twenty, in order to bring them to a *coarser sort of food*; in order to bring them down to gruel, and other kettle-rubbish, how do you go to work?

LUMPSKULL. Why, I should lop off the poor-rates; give them no relief except in a big workhouse; strip their own clothes off, and put on an ugly workhouse dress; separate the husbands from the wives; separate the children from both; prohibit all intercourse with them from without, as much as if they were in a jail; take away the power of the magistrate and of the overseer; put all power into our hands in the vestry, and to enable us to vote by proxy; so that when I am in Switzerland you can vote for me; and this I can tell you is what is going to be done!

SCUT. I trust in God I shall never see that day!

LUMPSKULL. What, do you want me to continue in the beggarly state in which I now am?

SCUT. By no means, my lord. And if your lordship, and those in your state of life have the spirit of your grandfather in you, you would not be in your present state, and you would not suffer anybody to mention to you a scheme like that which you have mentioned to me, the folly of which is equal to its wickedness.

LUMPSKULL. What, then, would you have us do? What would my grandfather, of whom you are always talking, have done to save himself from the state in which I now am?

SCUT. Why, my lord, your grandfather would have done this: he would have looked over the list of farmer **STYLES**'s outgoings, as you have had the goodness to do; he would have seen that, of those outgoings, more than one-half consists of the cost of labour and of poor-rates. He would, perhaps, have thought that his might do for these purposes: he would have sent for a labouring man of about his own age, and who had worked on his estate from his infancy, and he would have inquired minutely into all his expenditure; he would have remembered the time when a man worked for a shilling a day, instead of the ten shillings a week which he now receives; and he would have found that he was a great deal better off then than he is now. He would have found that the malt, which formerly cost him three shillings a bushel, has now eight-and-sixpence to pay

for. He would have found that this had driven him to the tea-kettle, and that the tea, the sugar, and the time, were become the bane of his life; he would have found that, in the great article of shoes, a pair that used to cost six shillings now cost eleven, not because there is a tax on the leather itself, but because whoever has a pair of shoes must pay a portion of all the taxes which are paid by the shoemaker; he would have found, in short, that there is now a taxation of fifty millions a year; that there was a tax of sixteen millions a year when this man received six shillings a week; he would have found that a labouring man pays a greater portion of the taxes than any body else, and that the only possible mode of enabling **STYLES** to pay him more rent was that of causing the taxes to be reduced.

LUMPSKULL. Oh! as to reducing the taxes that is impossible. **ALTHORP** could not spare the malt-tax, and **PEEL** could not spare it; that **COBBETT** may talk as long as he likes, but we must keep "*national faith*."

SCUT. Keeping faith is a very good thing to be sure, my lord; but has "*national faith*" been kept with you, whose estate has to pay interest for three times the sum that was borrowed?

LUMPSKULL. That's very true, Mr. **SCUT**; as far as that goes you are right enough; but there are *other things*, besides the interest of the debt.

SCUT. To be sure there are other things, but that is nothing to you. Make this deduction from the interest of the debt, at any rate.

LUMPSKULL. Ah! Mr. **SCUT**; you do not seem to know what we may come to if we once begin. That amiable and excellent man, Sir **JAMES GRAHAM**; that great statesman, so beautifully described by **HARRIET WILSON**; he proposed to take thirty per cent. from the interest of the debt at once; and all of us landlords were delighted at the proposal; when all at once, what does that d—m—d fellow **COBBETT** do! You *know* the fellow, I suppose?

SCUT. Oh yes, my lord! If we don't know him it is not the fault of his enemies, at any rate.

LUMPSKULL. Well; what does that rascal do, think you? He sees what relief the proposition would bring us; he pretends to be our friend: he is always bawling for the land, and against the funds; and what now do you think this wicked devil did?

SCUT. 'Pon my word I cannot guess.

LUMPSKULL. Why, he said that the proposition of GRAHAM *was just*, provided (now do mark this promise) that all unmerited pensions, sinecures, grants, retired allowances, useless places, military and naval half-pay, were *clean lopped off at the same time*; and that, unless that were done, to reduce the interest of the debt would be an act of enormous injustice.

SCUT. Well, really my lord, I....

LUMPSKULL. Really! What, do you agree with him, then? And so then you want my brother TOM to lose his half-pay because he never saw a shot fired. You want my uncle NEO to lose his pension, which PITT gave him for having lost his estate in a contested election. You want my uncle, the Rev. R. LUMPSKULL, to lose his place as chaplain and librarian; you want my sister SALLY'S husband to lose his snug retired allowance, after a service of five years, and the abolition of his office. You want my brother HENRY.... in short, you want my whole family to be ruined.

SCUT. Indeed I do not, my lord. I want you to have an estate, which you have not now; and out of that estate to provide in a proper manner for all your younger brothers and your sisters; and to be what an English gentleman formerly was, the independent head of a family, living on his estate; respected and beloved by all around; and not the miserable dependant on whatever gabbling adventurer gets the handling of the public wealth into his power. By the present system of taxation you may be totally ruined and beggared, in spite of all your efforts to save yourself; but without making such efforts you will richly merit your ruin: in the one case, you will sink amidst the applause of all good men; in the other case you will sink covered with their contempt; and, as to your project for putting the wages of labour into your

pocket by compelling Englishmen to submit to Irish treatment and Irish fare, all the reward you will receive will be the execration of the millions whom you vainly imagine you can succeed in oppressing.

Now, stupid loggerheads of Saint GEORGE'S, Hanover-square, here are the true objects of the bill. This is the light in which the people all over the kingdom view it; and everything that they see done towards the execution of the bill, convinces them that these reasons are here truly stated and described.

There is as much of folly as of savage baseness in the supporters of this bill; for, if they could bring the people to Irish fare, by the means of stipendiary magistrates and police, which they have always had in contemplation, where would they then find a market for their wheat at all? And if this family of pensioned LUMPSKULLS could see the English labourers reduced from sixpence to two shillings a day, where would the taxes come from to pay their pensions? LUMPSKULLS never think of this; and they are carrying on a war (which is only just begun) from mere motives of greediness unparalleled, conjoined with ignorance unparalleled.

After another article or two in this *Register*, I shall insert divers extracts from country papers, and a letter or two relative to the progress of the poor-law commissioners. These latter seem to be brimful of spite lest the scheme should be defeated, and defeated it will be to a certainty. I will insert the Duke of RICHMOND'S bill of fare, and I will in all cases bring forward the actors with their names at full length. I look upon this contest as the greatest between the aristocracy and the people that has happened in my time. Every thing that is base and infamous in the whole country is now rousing itself up to take part in this terrible contest. As I insert the documents of which I have been speaking, I shall here and there have to make an observation; but, before I come to this part of my *Register*, I must make some remarks on the motion of Mr. CAYLEY.

MR. CAYLEY'S MOTION.

At one time I wondered what in all the world this motion could be about. The motion was made on Monday the 1. of June; and appears to have been in the following words: "That a select committee, based on parliamentary declarations of agricultural distress, be appointed to inquire if there be not effective means within the reach of Parliament to afford substantial relief to the agriculture of the United Kingdom, and especially to recommend to the attention of such committee the subject of a silver, or of a conjoined standard of silver and gold." Mr. CAYLEY, I remember that, when a feeling of humanity prevailed in the House, at the idea of enacting impunity to profligate masters and sons, and tradesmen and their sons, and farmers and their sons, and lords and gentlemen's menial servants, including their blasted foreigners, and Bourbon-police men, and half-pay officers, and those great bastard-getters dressed in black; when a feeling of humanity in a great many Members of the House of Commons seemed to be likely to shake even hard and cunning ALTHORP, in his determination to let loose all these profligate wretches upon the poor servant-girls; then, I remember, Mr. CAYLEY, you rose up, and in a very solemn manner expressed your hope that the noble Lord would have the moral courage to persevere; there being in your opinion, I suppose, great moral courage required in moving, with the support of nine-tenths of the House, against a class of the most worthless and most deserving of compassion of all human beings.

Mr. CAYLEY, you now called aloud

for a merciful consideration of the *distresses of agriculture*. What, do not the labouring men belong to agriculture? Did you call out for a merciful consideration of their case? You have the word *agriculturists* eternally on your lips. You should leave off this word, which is, in fact, no word at all belonging to our language, or any other language. It was coined in the time of high prices and paper-money; and the use of it only serves to remind us of the upstart impudence, the contemptible affectation of high manners, and of the base injustice towards the labourers which marked those days. Leave it off, Mr. CAYLEY; and take the word *farmers*; or, which is more proper, perhaps, *husbandmen*.

Mr. CAYLEY, who do you mean when you are talking of the distressed agriculturists? Not the most numerous class, certainly; for you have just most vehemently supported a law to cause them to live upon a coarser sort of food. Is it the renters that you mean? That cannot be; because to relieve their distress the landlords need not come to the Parliament. If they be distressed it arises from their paying too much rent; this cause of distress the landlords can remove immediately; and I believe it will be found upon an average of England and Wales, that the rents are twice as high as they were in 1792, though the wheat is cheaper now than it was then. Why, then, do you not tell us, that rents have been paid you for years out of what the farmer possesses exclusive of the revenue of his farm. I know this to be the case, and you know it to be the case. I know also that a good tenant will almost as soon quit his life as quit his farm. How-

ever, there are numerous cases in which you can no longer get rents; and it is totally useless to break up the farmers; no others can come to supply their place: the farms must be kept up by the present tenants; or they must actually be *given up to the labourers*; because these have a clearer right to a living out of them than the landlord himself has.

Mr. CAYLEY, now did you really believe, that your motion, if adopted, would do anything towards relieving your distress? If you could believe this, then the Lord have mercy upon those who are to be relieved by you. You tell us that wheat has fallen to thirty-two shillings the quarter. It glads my eyes to see the statement. I calculated, when in Long-island, that it might come down to twenty-eight shillings a quarter; that is to say, three-and-sixpence the Winchester bushel. People thought me mad. Whether the landlords will stand it lower than that I do not know. This is glorious weather, at present: another ten days of it brings down the wheat to my standard. Let that come, or lower. I shall grow, perhaps, this year a hundred quarters of wheat: it will be prime white wheat; and nothing would delight me so much as to have to sell it at the price of the mere tax upon the bushel of malt; that is to say, two-and-sevenpence the WINCHESTER bushel; I having nothing to do with the crack-skulled, whiskey-drenched, jobbing, conceited, itchy, pompous, stupid, vagabond bushel, the capacity of which is regulated by the beating of a pendulum, in sixty degrees of heat, by the thermometer of FAHRENHEIT. Oh, Lord! let there come one more good panic (and it must come before it be long), and away goes old quaggy George the Fourth's *imperial* bushel, to follow himself to regions which here shall be nameless.

Mr. CAYLEY, you would not vote for my motion for the repeal of the malt-tax: you said, that that was of *no use*: to vote for that it was not worth walking out of BELLAMY's hospitable apartments. I should, however, have gone up to your motion; and that, too, for the purpose of showing and proving the total inutility, which, however, was not object

sufficient to take me from the work of preparing a field wherein to sow Lucerne; having, besides, suffered so much in the case of the motion of the Marquis of CHANDOS, going home from which, at the end of a period of twenty-seven hours, without one wink of sleep; and then hastening back without sleep again for about twenty hours more. Nevertheless, though I felt no obligation on me, as in the case of the motion of the Marquis of CHANDOS, I should have gone up for the purpose of showing the perfectly *raving* absurdity; the monstrous dog-days' dream, that the evils produced by PEEL's bill were to be corrected, or in the smallest degree mitigated, by the adoption of a motion like yours. What correct the evils of that prodigious measure by a mere slight alteration in the value of money, to be effected by the adoption of a silver standard. There is something so distressingly ridiculous in this, that one can hardly believe one's senses when one reads about it. Just as if the silver would not still bear its proper value; and just as if every soul who heard you did not know that you were moving for a depreciation of the money altogether; and for which many persons might have been prepared; but the astonishment must have been, that a hundred and twenty-six were found to vote for a nondescript motion like yours.

Mr. CAYLEY, there are two ways of correcting the evils of PEEL's Bill as to *future* effects. The first is to debase the standard; depreciate the money; Bank restriction. That's bankruptcy; open avowed, complete bankruptcy; and inflicting an unmitigated and everlasting pecuniary disgrace; besides ultimate convulsion and a total breaking up of property. I do this, *not in order to prevent it*; but since the passing of the Poor-law Bill I have no alarms for my part, at the approach of a state of things like this.

The other way is that of an *EQUABLE ADJUSTMENT*, which I proposed at a county meeting in Kent in January 1822: and for which proposition I was most infamously abused in the House of Commons by BROUGHAM, by RUSSELL, by Sir EDWARD KNATCHBULL, by the late apple-headed CALCRAFT, and

JOHN SMITH. The same proposition I presented to the county of Norfolk, in the next January; and there are both the propositions in the two county petitions, recorded in the proceedings of the House. At that time, particularly in the case of the Norfolk petition, the execrably villainous London newspapers poured out upon me, with voice unanimous, representing me as a person who ought to be shot from behind a hedge, or something of that sort. I laid it on upon these villains pretty decently; and told the public that it would be led by them till it would be too late for any human being to prevent a revolution in England. It is very curious that the *Morning Herald* newspaper, who then thought it its interest to be one of the most bitter against me, has now come up round, and laments that my proposition for an *equitable adjustment* was not adopted at the time when the proposition was made! They always end in this way: it might have been done then; but cannot be done *now*. To be sure, you cannot bring men back from the grave; you cannot restore estates that have been sold and the money spent; but you can stop a stop to future wrongs; you can lop half the taxes.

Mr. CAYLEY, there have been two or three calls upon me for my plan. Now I am resolved that I will have no goose-fable about this matter. I will make my motion; and my motion shall be for me to bring in a bill for the purpose of making an equitable adjustment, &c. If the House agree to my motion, then the members may tear the bill to pieces, and spit at it, light their pipes with it. If the House do not agree to my motion, I am tired of all the taunts about not proposing any plan. Any other mode of proceeding would expose me to the misrepresentations, or the ignorant interpretations of the *suck-mugs* and their villainous employers. Let the House order my motion to be printed; and if it be foolish, let them pass for a fool. This shall be my way of going on; and if I do not succeed in the leave to bring in the bill, I will deem it, and the people will deem it, the death of my opponents.

Mr. CAYLEY, you are a friend of the Poor Law Bill. That was to "relieve

agriculture," was it not? What! do you now want something more? You have got a plurality of votes at vestries; you have got a voting by proxy; you have put a stop to that which you were afraid would "swallow up the land." Your friend, ALTHORP; your sly friend, ALTHORP, having got a bill passed to prevent the land from being swallowed up, you are safe, are you not? You support the Whigs, do not you? And you have got POULETT THOMSON to support; and POULETT THOMSON tells you that PEEL's Bill has done you no injury! There was Mr. CLAY, too, who uttered some very moving things. Sir ROBERT PEEL appears not to have known very well what to say. He admitted that his bill had done harm; but that to do fresh harm was not the remedy; and he was perfectly right. I wonder that neither of the ATTWOODS spoke upon this occasion. If either of them had, we should have had sense, at any rate; for though I do not agree with them as to the proper remedy, I agree with them as to all the causes of the evil, and as to the total inefficiency of everything proposed resembling the motion of Mr. CAYLEY.

See p. 696, for an article from the *Morning Herald*.

POOR-LAW STRUGGLE.

I SHALL here insert the documents of which I have before spoken. I have no time to make any comments, and must leave the documents to speak for themselves.

SUFFOLK.

The people issued a handbill at LAXFIELD, for the hundred of HOXNE. The magistrates issued their counter-declaration, forbidding the meeting. The meeting, however, took place, in spite of the magistrates' notice, and certainly their notice contained a lie; for they said that the meeting would be *illegal*. They had their meeting, nevertheless. The magistrates had their *yeomanry cavalry ready in waiting*; but the meeting having reprobated the bill, and agreed to petition

against the bill, quietly dispersed, unmolested by the jolterheads. Curious, that the moment the Whigs came back into power again, this sort of work recommenced.

NEW POOR ACT.

Notice is hereby given, that a general meeting of the hundred of Hoxne and parishes adjacent, will be held at Horham on Monday next, May 25, 1835, to take into consideration the various resolutions that will be proposed, and the most proper measures to be adopted, in regard to the act called the "Poor-law Amendment Bill." Business will commence at three o'clock.

As the question is of the utmost importance to all classes, whether rate-payers, working-men of all trades, but more especially agricultural labourers, it is earnestly requested that no man will fail to be present who has one spark of feeling for his kindred, his liberty, and his home! Now or never. Remember, no time must be lost!

HOXNE HUNDRED.

A paper having been circulated, calling together the inhabitants of the hundred of Hoxne and parishes adjacent, at Horham, on Monday the 25. instant,

We, the acting magistrates for the said hundred, do hereby give

NOTICE,

That such meeting, if held, *will be illegal*, and that all persons attending the same will be *liable to fine and imprisonment*, and we do therefore hereby warn all persons to forbear attending such meeting. Dated the 23. day of May, 1835.

EDWARD BARLEE.

HENRY DIVEN.

AUGUSTUS COOPER.

SUSSEX.

The Duke of RICHMOND's relations have denied the truth of all that I have spoken, relative to the Duke of RICHMOND's conduct in the poor-law affair in Sussex. In order to remove the effect of my statements, there was a "meeting of the Board of Guardians of the WEST HAMPNETT UNION," on the 18th of

May; and they put forth in the *Jew's paper of Brighton*, the following proclamation, which I insert, with all its signatures:

WEST HAMPNETT UNION.

At a Meeting of the Board of Guardians, held at the Workhouse at West Hampnett, on Monday, the 18th day of May, 1835, Charles Scrase Dickins, Esq., vice chairman, in the chair,

Mr. Ide proposed that the following resolutions be inserted in the minutes:—

"That this Board has read with feelings of disgust a speech reported in the newspapers to have been uttered by Mr. Cobbett, reflecting on the conduct of his Grace *the Duke of Richmond, the Chairman of this Board*, and charging him *with having induced a parish in Sussex to expend 2,000l. upon additions to the Poor-house.*

"That this Board feels it but an act of justice to the noble Duke publicly to deny the truth of Mr. Cobbett's statement, which this Board unanimously declares to have been made without the slightest foundation.

"That this Board feels that it is under the greatest obligation to the Duke of Richmond for the *liberal assistance* which his Grace has at all times afforded to the union, and for those *recommendations to economy* which it has been his Grace's *expressed wish should be adopted in enlarging and furnishing the work-houses* belonging to the union, and for the course he has recommended to be pursued, having for its objects *as well the comforts of the industrious poor as the proper and careful expenditure of the monies raised for their support.*"

This proposal was seconded by Mr. Stubbington, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Hack moved that these resolutions be inserted in the *Globe*, and *Times*, the *Hampshire Telegraph*, and *Brighton Guardian*, which was seconded by Mr. Stubbington and carried unanimously.

Mr. John Randall moved that these resolutions be signed by the guardians present, which was seconded by Mr. Chitty, and carried unanimously.

CHARLES SCRASE DICKINS,

Vice Chairman.

Names.	Guardian of
William C. Dewey,	Appledram,
James Wyatt,	Aldingbourne,
William Young,	West Stoke,
Richard B. Robins,	East Lavant,
John Hobgen, jun.,	Sidlesham,
John Rusbridger,	Boxgrove,
William Stubbington,	Selsey,
William Rusbridge, jun.,	Sidlesham,
John Petar,	Graffham,
William Fogden,	Eastdean,
John Hipkin,	Singleton,
T. Rudwick,	Donnington,
Charles Clayton,	East Wittering,
Edward Woodland,	Birdham,
Richard Cosens,	Barnham,
George Osborn,	Tangmere,
William Collick,	Birdham,
George Drewitt,	Walberton,
William Gibbs,	West Itchenor,
George Souter,	Boxgrove,
Henry Halsted,	Merston,
John Randall,	Oving,
John Ide,	West Wittering,
Thomas Halsted,	West Hampnett,
James Hack,	Pagham,
James P. Hayllar,	New Fishbourne,
George Amooore,	Felpham,
William Woodman,	Selsey,
Charles Chitty,	Northmundham,
William Field,	Rumboldswyke,
William Riley Field,	Eastergate,
Edmund Collins,	Walberton,
Edward Martin,	Upwaltham,
William Laker,	Yapton,
Henry Sadler,	Midlavant.

Now here, as far as it says anything, this proclamation confirms what I said. I said that the Duke of RICHMOND was the chairman of one of these gangs of poor-law union fellows. I said, that he let a house to the union, and received the rent for it, which house was used as a workhouse. These fellows tell a lie. I never said that he had *induced* a parish to expend two thousand pounds in additions to the poor-house, for there had been no such additions made; but I said, that it had been *proposed by some parties* to make additions to the poor-house to the amount of two thousand pounds expense; and this fact this gang of fellows

do not pretend to deny. However, they, under their hands, declare the Duke to be the chairman of this WEST HAMPNETT Union; and the great manager of the diet, and of everything else. And observe, there have been recommendations from the Duke *relative to enlarging and furnishing the workhouses!* Oh! There have, have there, been recommendations from him about enlarging the workhouse! Now, these insincere jolter-skulls; these great chubby-faced, sleepy-eyed, silly-looking fellows, ten thousand times more cunning than any London pickpocket; these fellows might have told us, while they had the impudence to contradict me by a lie, what sort of enlarging the Duke had recommended, and whether it were or were not *his own house* that was to be enlarged. I have only to add, with regard to this proclamation, that I am informed and believe, that JOHN RUSBRIDGER is the Duke's steward; that almost all the rest are the tenants of the Duke and of LORD GEORGE LENNOX; except one or two, who are tenants of an old mother DORIEN, I think it is, who is a sort of relation of some kind, to this family of LENNOX; this endless swarm of everlasting pensioners.

Now then, the Duke being the chairman, and the great manager of this WEST HAMPNETT Union, let us take a little look at his proceedings; and, first of all, of what he calls his "DIETARY," which I take from a printed paper, emanating from MASON, printer, of CHICHESTER. The first table is for a man or woman in health; the second for the sick; the third for boys or girls, from three to ten years of age; the fourth for children between one and three years of age. Pray, reader, look well at it; look well at the man's dinner on Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday. Look well at his meat for the week. Look at the gruel, meaning oatmeal and water. Recollect that the meat is weighed before cooking, and the bone included. Recollect that this Duke, and his predecessor, and his predecessor for two hundred years, have been receiving, out of the labour of the people of England, as much money annually as would maintain *five thousand four hundred poor labourers, according to this table!*

But, let us have the table first.

WEST HAMPNETT UNION.

THE GENERAL DIETARY.

DIETARY.	BREAKFAST.		DINNER.				SUPPER.	
	BREAD.	GRUEL.	BEEF.	POTATOES.	SOUP.	PUDDING SUET.	CHEESE.	BROTH.
	Ounces.	Pints.	Ounces.	Pound.	Pints.	Ounces.	Ounces.	Pints.
Sunday	12	1½	..	..	1½	..	2	..
Monday	12	1½	..	..	1½	..	2	..
Tuesday	12	1½	5	half	..	..	..	1½
Wednesday..	12	1½	..	..	1½	..	2	..
Thursday ..	12	1½	5	half	..	..	..	1½
Friday	8	1½	..	..	..	14	2	..
Saturday....	12	1½	5	half	..	..	..	1½

INFIRM DIETARY.

DIETARY.	BREAKFAST.		DINNER.				SUPPER.	
	BREAD.	GRUEL.	MUTTON.	POTATOES.	SOUP.	RICE PUDDING.	CHEESE.	BROTH.
	Ounces.	Pints.	Ounces.	Pound.	Pints.	Ounces	Ounces.	Pints.
Sunday	10	1½	..	..	1½	..	2	..
Monday	10	1½	..	..	1½	..	2	..
Tuesday	10	1½	5	half	..	..	..	1½
Wednesday..	10	1½	..	..	1½	..	2	..
Thursday....	10	1½	5	half	..	..	..	1½
Friday	10	1½	..	..	..	10	2	..
Saturday....	10	1½	5	half	..	..	..	1½

DIETARY FOR CHILDREN,
From 3 to 10 Years of Age.

DIETARY.	BREAKFAST.		DINNER.			SUPPER.
	BREAD.	MILK GRUEL.	MUTTON.	POTATOES.	PUDDING RICE.	MILK GRUEL.
	Ounces.	Pints.	Ounces.	Pounds.	Ounces.	Pints.
Sunday	12	$\frac{1}{2}$	..	..	Rice 7	$\frac{1}{2}$
Monday	12	$\frac{1}{2}$	..	..	Suet 7	$\frac{1}{2}$
Tuesday	12	$\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	..	$\frac{1}{2}$
Wednesday ..	12	$\frac{1}{2}$	..	..	Rice 7	$\frac{1}{2}$
Thursday	12	$\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	..	$\frac{1}{2}$
Friday	12	$\frac{1}{2}$	..	..	Suet 7	$\frac{1}{2}$
Saturday	12	$\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	..	$\frac{1}{2}$

DIETARY FOR CHILDREN,
Between 1 and 3 Years of Age.

DIETARY.	BREAKFAST.		DINNER.		SUPPER.
	BREAD.	MILK GRUEL.	PUDDING.	MUTTON BROTH WITH RICE.	MILK GRUEL.
	Ounces.	Pints.	Ounces.	Ounces.	Pints.
Sunday	10	$\frac{1}{2}$	..	12	$\frac{1}{2}$
Monday	10	$\frac{1}{2}$	Suet 5	..	$\frac{1}{2}$
Tuesday	10	$\frac{1}{2}$	..	12	$\frac{1}{2}$
Wednesday ..	10	$\frac{1}{2}$	Rice 7	..	$\frac{1}{2}$
Thursday	10	$\frac{1}{2}$	..	12	$\frac{1}{2}$
Friday	10	$\frac{1}{2}$	Suet 5	..	$\frac{1}{2}$
Saturday	10	$\frac{1}{2}$	..	12	$\frac{1}{2}$

WEST HAMPNETT UNION.

THE GENERAL DIETARY.

DIETARY.	BREAKFAST.		DINNER.				SUPPER.	
	BREAD.	GRUEL.	BEEF.	POTATOES.	SOUP.	PUDDING SUET.	CHEESE.	BROTH.
	Ounces.	Pints.	Ounces.	Pound.	Pints.	Ounces.	Ounces.	Pints.
Sunday	12	1½	..	..	1½	..	2	..
Monday	12	1½	..	..	1½	..	2	..
Tuesday	12	1½	5	half	..	..	..	1½
Wednesday..	12	1½	..	..	1½	..	2	..
Thursday ..	12	1½	5	half	..	..	..	1½
Friday	8	1½	..	..	..	14	2	..
Saturday....	12	1½	5	half	..	..	..	1½

INFIRM DIETARY.

DIETARY.	BREAKFAST.		DINNER.				SUPPER.	
	BREAD.	GRUEL.	MUTTON.	POTATOES.	SOUP.	RICE PUDDING.	CHEESE.	BROTH.
	Ounces.	Pints.	Ounces.	Pound.	Pints.	Ounces	Ounces.	Pints.
Sunday	10	1½	..	..	1½	..	2	..
Monday	10	1½	..	..	1½	..	2	..
Tuesday	10	1½	5	half	..	..	..	1½
Wednesday..	10	1½	..	..	1½	..	2	..
Thursday....	10	1½	5	half	..	..	..	1½
Friday	10	1½	..	..	..	10	2	..
Saturday....	10	1½	5	half	..	..	..	1½

DIETARY FOR CHILDREN,
From 3 to 10 Years of Age.

DIETARY.	BREAKFAST.		DINNER.			SUPPER.
	BREAD.	MILK GRUEL.	MUTTON.	POTATOES.	PUDDING RICE.	MILK GRUEL.
	Ounces.	Pints.	Ounces.	Pounds.	Ounces.	Pints.
Sunday	12	$\frac{1}{2}$	..	..	Rice 7	$\frac{1}{2}$
Monday	12	$\frac{1}{2}$	..	..	Suet 7	$\frac{1}{2}$
Tuesday	12	$\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	..	$\frac{1}{2}$
Wednesday ..	12	$\frac{1}{2}$	..	..	Rice 7	$\frac{1}{2}$
Thursday	12	$\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	..	$\frac{1}{2}$
Friday	12	$\frac{1}{2}$	..	..	Suet 7	$\frac{1}{2}$
Saturday	12	$\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	..	$\frac{1}{2}$

DIETARY FOR CHILDREN,
Between 1 and 3 Years of Age.

DIETARY.	BREAKFAST.		DINNER.		SUPPER.
	BREAD.	MILK GRUEL.	PUDDING.	MUTTON BROTH WITH RICE.	MILK GRUEL.
	Ounces.	Pints.	Ounces.	Ounces.	Pints.
Sunday	10	$\frac{1}{2}$	..	12	$\frac{1}{2}$
Monday	10	$\frac{1}{2}$	Suet 5	..	$\frac{1}{2}$
Tuesday	10	$\frac{1}{2}$	..	12	$\frac{1}{2}$
Wednesday ..	10	$\frac{1}{2}$	Rice 7	..	$\frac{1}{2}$
Thursday	10	$\frac{1}{2}$	..	12	$\frac{1}{2}$
Friday	10	$\frac{1}{2}$	Suet 5	..	$\frac{1}{2}$
Saturday	10	$\frac{1}{2}$	..	12	$\frac{1}{2}$

The weather is hot, and my blood boils | French woman, while this profligate king
 too much to suffer me to proceed with | a wife at the same time. The bastard
 any thing like calmness. Men of Sussex | was his, or he believed so; and he made
 hear this! Understand it; and tell it to your | him a duke, and settled upon him and
 children. The poor-rates of your whole | descendants the *amount of the duty*
 county, including the county-rates, paid for | *coals imported into London*. And I
 ments to hired overseers, law expenses, | can remember these duties being paid to
 and all sorts of things, amount to 281,000 | the old duke, who died about thirty years
 a year. That which is actually given to | age. The cunning race began to per-
 the poor may amount to two hundred | sive that it might be safer to have a
 thousand pounds a year. Now, mark, | pension fixed by act of Parliament in
 less than one-half of the interest of the | preference to these duties. The amount
 money which this family of LENNOX have | of the duties became enormous; the re-
 drawn out of the industry and sweat of | farmers fixed their eye upon them; they
 the people of England, by the means of | began to talk about them; and to inquire
 one pension, would *pay the whole of the* | how the devil they came to be due to
poor-rates of the county of Sussex for | these LENNOXES. The LENNOXES, if it
ever! I repeat, that this family of LEN- | were all the same to us, would as lieve
 NOX, by the means of one pension, have | that we did inquire much whence they
 sucked more out of the labour of the | sprang, and how they came to have the
 people of England; have sucked a sum, | coal-duties. Therefore, instead of thirty
one-half of the interest only of which | or forty thousand a year (perhaps it was)
 sum would pay all the poor-rates of the | that they had been receiving in virtue of
 county of Sussex for ever! Read that, | a mere grant from the profligate CHARLES
 and then hear these beggars of jolter- | the Second, they got the base Minister
 heads, cunning as pigs looking for the | and the boroughmonger Parliament to
 wind, praise "*his Grace*": his *Grace*, | pass an act of Parliament to settle upon
 for the "liberal assistance which he has | them 12,660*l. a year for ever!*
 given to the union."

You should know the true history of | sum every year, for more than thirty
 these LENNOXES. In a book called *The* | years. Here, then, principal and interest
Peerage, they brag that they are de- | make up a sum, which I have heaped to
 scended from a bastard of King CHARLES | pay out of my earnings, of more than
 the Second, begotten upon the body of a | half a million of money; and this is the

fellow that sets out the above bill of fare for the people of Sussex. The sum of money which this family have received in this *one grant and pension*, exceeds the sum which would be required to keep the whole of the people of Sussex, man, woman, and child: mind, you jolter-headed beasts of WEST HAMPNETT Union, I say, that this family has received from the fruit of the labour of the people of England, a sum of money, the bare interest of which would maintain the whole of the people of Sussex, man, woman, and child, for ever, with triple the allowance that this very duke gives to a Sussex poor man! And, are we such base slaves become! Am I destined to behold in my countrymen a race of wretches so degenerate, cowardly, and base as not to pay due attention to facts like these!

I will visit and revisit this duke. One of the LENNOXES told me, or rather, told the House, that he supposed I was actuated by feelings of disappointment at my son JOHN not having been elected for CHICHESTER; and he complimented the son as being so different in point of manners from the father. So help me God, a remembrance of the affair of the election had never come into my mind; and as to the better manners of the son that son had better not let me know it, one should ever take it into his head to flatter or speak well of a LENNOX after this affair

of the WEST HAMPNETT Union, and after the above bill of fare. On the contrary, I do not believe that it is in the nature of that son; or of any one proceeding from me, not to hold the advocates of this poor-law in abhorrence greater than they ever held snakes and toads; and I have seen, with not a little pleasure, that this same son, in the discharge of his professional duties, has been engaged in defending some of those men who have been tried at LEWES for opposition to the Poor-law Bill.

Now comes another paper, illustrative of the character of these poor-law-workhouse proceedings. It is a posting bill, for the sale of *brewing* utensils, and *meat-killing* and *meat-keeping* utensils, belonging to parishes in the Duke of RICHMOND'S WEST HAMPNETT UNION! Here is sentence of *eternal water* upon the unfortunate poor. Reader, your blood will boil as you proceed. Here you see every thing to make provision of beer and meat is to be sold away. I insert the bill just as it stands, and as I have received it from CHICHESTER. Thus it goes all over the world, let the LENNOXES recollect. Let the readers every where remember, that it is the pensioner Duke of RICHMOND that orders this to be done; for he is the *chairman* of this band who call themselves the Guardians of the Union: let the Americans read this and let them not believe that I am the only man in England, that has any feeling upon the subject.

CHICHESTER.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION,
BY Messrs. WHITE AND SON,

Opposite the Council Chamber, North-street,

On WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10th, 1835, at Eleven o'clock,

A GENERAL ASSORTMENT OF

Brewing Utensils,

In Vats, Coolers, Tan Tubs, and excellent seasoned Casks of various sizes, among which are some capital Hogsheads, Beer Stands, Pickling Tubs, and Excellent Steel Malt Mill.

ALSO,

Five Loads of New Sacks, new Sacking, Thread for Sack Making, 3 cwt. of Riga Hemp, quantity of Tools, Half Bag of Prime Hops of 1834, and Miscellaneous Effects,

BELONGING to the **WORKHOUSE** at **HAMPNETT.**

YAPTON, SUSSEX.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION,
By Messrs. WHITE and Son,

At the Workhouse, Yapton, on Thursday, June 11th, 1835,

A GENERAL ASSORTMENT OF

BREWING UTENSILS,

In Vats, Coolers, Tun Tubs, capital seasoned Casks of various sizes, Beer Stands, Pickling Tubs, excellent Steel Malt Mill, and Miscellaneous Effects,

Belonging to Yapton and Aldingbourne Workhouse.

SALE TO COMMENCE AT ELEVEN O'CLOCK.

SIDLESHAM, SUSSEX.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION,

By Messrs. White and Son,

At the Workhouse, Sidlesham, on Friday, June 12th, 1835,

A GENERAL ASSORTMENT OF

Brewing Utensils,

In Vats, Coolers, Tun Tubs, excellent seasoned Casks of various sizes, Beer Stands, Pickling Tubs, Machine for Dressing Flour, Steel Malt Mill, Hog Pullies and Ropes, and various other effects,

Of Pagham and Sidlesham Workhouse.

THE SALE TO COMMENCE PRECISELY AT ELEVEN O'CLOCK.

Williams and Pollinger, Printers, North-street, Chichester.

Now, reader, I pray you look at this. Here were three parish poor-houses, each of them set up and long-established, with the means of providing the destitute poor with beer and meat; with the means of making these wholesome; of preserving them in a good state; and of rendering the poor people tolerably comfortable. And here comes the pensioned LENNOX; here comes this great whale-like swallower of taxes, flings out all the means of providing wholesome drink, and wholesome meat, and well-dressed flour. He is the *chairman*, observe, of the whole of the union; and he thus passes sentence of water and oatmeal and potatoes, upon all that shall become destitute within the precinct of his command, though they have as clear a right to a maintenance out of the land, as he has to the rents of his land. This pensioned LENNOX proclaims *no more beer*: *no more hogs to be killed* for the poor. This LENNOX; this pensioned LENNOX; this tax-eating LENNOX, thus condemns the unfortunate people of Sussex that come within his reach.

Here, in this horrible bill of sale by auction, here we have a specimen of the intentions of sly ALTHORP and his band. Sly ALTHORP said, that the labourers were well off in the north; and that he wished to make those in the south equally well off; and here is his worthy colleague at work, to take beer and bacon from the labourers in the south, in order to make them *equally well off* with those in the north! Well said, old sly ALTHORP; but you have not *done* the thing yet; you have only begun to attempt the thing.

We are to look at the diet-table of this LENNOX as the standard, which the Poor-law Bill is to cause to be adopted, for the purpose of "*preventing the estates from being swallowed up by the poor*"; while this LENNOX himself swallows annually as great a sum as he allows for the maintenance of upwards of six thousand of these poor working-people. The county of Sussex, at the making of the last return on the subject, contained altogether, old and young, 26,328 poor persons, whom the agents of the Parliament had the insolence to call paupers, but who never were so called, until after the present family came to the throne. Now

mark this LENNOX: this pensioned LENNOX himself swallows up, out of the taxes, one fifth part as much money as would maintain the whole of these Sussex "paupers," at the rate at which this LENNOX feeds them! Need any thing further be said, even to logs of wood? I ask whether any thing equal to this was ever before heard of in the world? And I should like to know what the venerable old gentleman at PETWORTH is about! I know something about the *havings* of these EGREMONT WYNDHAMS. I know that they can do a little, too, in the way of *swallowing up taxes*. I know something about their legitimacy and illegitimacy; and, if I be not basely abandoned by the country, out it all comes now. They tell us that we are idle; that we are lazy; that we have no right to the means of eating and drinking: we will inquire into *their* rights; and by NAME, too; we will inquire how they came by those things which they call their estates, since they have chosen to abrogate the fundamental law, upon which our most valuable right rested. I have not forgotten the "RECKONING COMMISSION"; I have many able hands to assist me. I remember Sir ROBERT PEEL's "eleventh plague," and the bellowing he called forth against me: I remember the motion without notice of cunning ALTHORP, which motion, being too foolish, was (oh God!) amended by the Speaker, by a volunteer motion of his own from the chair. Oh! I remember all this well; I remember the hideous bellowings at the back of sly ALTHORP; and the half-female Ya, ya, ya, ya, ya, of the sucking cubs at the back of PEEL! "Come the eleventh plague," said he; "Come Dane, Norman, Roman; come anything but this! We have wept; we have mourned; we never *blushed* before."

By heavens, I will make you blush now, before I have done with you! But, why all this outcry, in consequence of a proposition made by me to ascertain the real pedigree of the several landholders in the several counties; and to ascertain HOW THEY CAME BY THEIR ESTATES. And, what harm was there in this? What wrong was there in it? There was no proposition to do anything

either to them, or their estates; and yet the proposition to come at this fact called forth, "Come the *eleventh plague*," and all the rest of it.

If, however, this be so terrific a proposition, Sir ROBERT PEEL shall have it made before him, in the House, at the risk of the second chapter of the "*Ya, ya, ya, ya, ya*." The truth is, I have a *great deal of information already*, as the grounds of my proposition for a parliamentary "*RECKONING COMMISSION*"; and, upon the grounds of this information I assert my belief, that those who are called the "noble families," and who are resident in the county of Sussex, actually receive more every year out of the taxes, raised on the people, than THE POOR PEOPLE OF THE WHOLE COUNTY ANNUALLY RECEIVE IN RELIEF! And, are we going to submit to this in silence, while LENNOX is selling the brewing and hog-killing materials, and proclaiming "*water, potatoes, and oatmeal*," in Sussex! I must quit Sussex for the present, and go to other counties; first, however, taking a look at the proceedings at the quarter sessions at LEWES, in this same county; which proceedings, charge at the chairman and all, I shall insert as I find them reported in the BRIGHTON *Patriot*, a paper which I strongly recommend to all my readers.

ADJOURNED QUARTER SESSIONS.

These sessions commenced on Wednesday, at the County Hall, Lewes, before the *Earl of Chichester* and W. Seymour, Esq.

The Earl of Chichester charged the Grand Jury, and after some unimportant observations, in speaking of the Willingdon rioters, he said it might be necessary, in relation to this charge, to explain what the law was. A riot in law was an assemblage of three or more persons for one common purpose. If they manifested their intention by some act of violence, all who were assembled were implicated in the guilt; and if force were used to effect an object, which, if force were not used, would not be illegal, then all who assisted in any way would still come under

the denomination of rioters. It would be their duty to investigate the evidence in every particular case, and satisfy themselves that the charge was brought home. They should bear in mind, too, that the more serious the charge, the more necessary was it that they should be quite satisfied with the evidence, before sending the case to that tribunal whose office it was finally to decide on the case. In reference to this charge, his Lordship said that he felt it his duty to address a few remarks to the Grand Jury as members of a class of society who had considerable influence over the lower classes. He wished to direct their attention to the importance of protecting parish officers from violence, and not only from violence, but also from any interruption in the discharge of their duty. It was most important that such a protection should be afforded, no less for the benefit of the peace of the officer, than for the ultimate advantage of the party interfering. A check should be applied to this kind of disorderly proceeding. This was one case among many others in which ignorant men had their passions *excited* and *roused* by ill-disposed and better educated men. He was persuaded that if a little sound information of the provisions and general tendency of the Poor-law Amendment Bill had been afforded them, these persons would not have been guilty of the disorderly conduct which had made them amenable to the laws; they would have been convinced that it would be to their own interests to support the law. The unfortunate men had been misled by persons who ought to have known better. It was by kind and conciliatory expostulation and advice that the erroneous impressions of these men could be removed; and it was their duty, by a firm administration of the law in this case, to give a check to the incipient act before the unhappy consequences could be carried into effect. The melancholy fact of there having recently occurred in this neighbourhood some instances of the *vicious destruction of cattle*, and the still more abominable crime of *arson*, was much to be regretted. It appeared that these crimes had been contemplated by but few persons; still they ought not to shut

their eyes to the fact that it betokened a state of mind which should be to them an object of serious attention.

CROWN COURT, WEDNESDAY.

Obadiah Climpson, labourer, 44, Richard Manser, labourer, 25, Thomas Hollebone, labourer, 20, and William Putland, labourer, 21, charged with unlawfully and riotously assembling with divers other persons at the parish of Willingdon, to disturb the peace, and assaulting Henry Hurst.

Mr. Darby stated the case for the prosecution, in doing which he observed that he might perhaps be travelling out of his duty as a counsel to *attribute this rising to certain enactments in the Poor-law Bill*; but whatever were the opinions of counsel or jury in that respect, such assemblages must be put down. If the prisoners were not really the guilty parties, they would be glad to avail themselves of an opportunity to bring the real offenders to justice; for what farmer, who had been kind to his workmen, would be inclined to *take such men into his service*? Whatever might be the law, such measures could not be justified, and must be put a stop to; for it was impossible that men receiving relief should be suffered to *dictate what relief they ought to have*. This was not merely a question of punishment as to these men; but he trusted it would lead to the *repression of the disturbances*. The learned counsel then called

Mr. Henry Hurst, who deposed: I am relieving officer for one of the districts at Willingdon. At three o'clock on Saturday, 9. May, I was at the National School, with Mr. Rippington, late assistant-overseer, for the purpose of relieving the poor, to pay them weekly relief. About twenty-six men came in—from that to thirty. I stated that it was the custom to have one only in the room at a time. Climpson said he should have 18s. a week before he left the room; I told them if they withdrew and came in one at a time I would tell them what I was ordered to give them. They withdrew. I sent for Climpson to come in, and told him his relief was 12s. He said he dared not take it. Mr. Ade advised him to take it.

Climpson requested me to put down on paper what each was to have. Mr. Rippington put it down separately, six gallons of flour, 4lbs. of meat, and 6s. 5d. in money. Mr. Ade went out, and I heard a very great noise out of doors. Mr. Seymour went out to see after Mr. Ade. Three or four, including Manser, came in. Manser complained of the meat, and said it would be some old stinking stuff not worth having. I asked Manser if he was head spokesman; he said, not in particular—they were all alike. All the labourers followed him in. Ade came back, followed by the whole body of paupers. Mr. Ade brought Hollebone, and wished me to lay his case before the guardians at the next meeting day. Told Ade, in presence of Hollebone, there was no occasion for that; if he set him to work he should be able to give him the same as another single man on the *next Saturday*. Hollebone is a single man: the other three are married. Hollebone replied that he could not go to work, as *he had nothing to eat*. I told him there was the house to go to. The parties refused to take relief, unless I gave them the sum they had been paid. They acted together; they were very riotous. After that, I went through a passage leading out of the school-room into the road. When I got among the paupers, they began to hustle me; the prisoners were of the party. When I got to the top of the passage I saw a parish cart (a hand-cart) moving towards me, as if it was being pushed towards me. There was an iron fence there. I laid hold of it, and tried to evade the mob. This was in front of Page's house. I suspected that they meant to put me in the cart; I afterwards got inside the fence. Putland came up, took hold of my arm, and pushed me from the fence. I asked him what I had done, and what they were going at with me. He said—"We mean to put you in the cart." The other labourers had opportunities of hearing what was said. Putland and some of the others pushed me towards the cart. I resisted for a moment, but at last was compelled to yield, and was lifted into the cart. When opposite Page's house he begged I would not come there, as it would cause his fence

to be pulled down. I was then drawn away in the cart; the three prisoners, Manser, Hollebone, and Putland, followed me. They were altogether there; Putland and Hollebone both had hold of the cart. There was a tremendous hallooing, and Putland gave directions how fast they were to go. I was taken above half a mile, and allowed to get out of the cart. They said I ought to think myself well off that I had got off as I did. They ordered me, the next time I came to Willingdon, to *bring more money*, or I should not go home with a whole skin, or alive. This sort of proceeding continued from between five and six o'clock till eight in the evening. Their conduct was tumultuous and noisy; the cart was heard to rattle for a mile and a half; the cart went over the rough flints. Have heard as a fact what I have just stated. Their conduct excited fear within me, and was such as to create apprehensions to persons on the road.

Cross-examined by Mr. Cobbett, for the prisoners: That was the first Sunday I was overseer; am not aware that an opinion prevailed that I came to reduce their parish relief; no one could have known anything of the kind. The 9. of May was the pay-day that I had fixed. It was the usual pay-day. I was there at half-past three. None of the surplus labourers had arrived; they arrived about an hour and a half afterwards. I had paid others before Climpson came in—the old and infirm: Climpson came in of his own accord. When I relieved him he said nothing at all about what he had been receiving before. I cannot say whether the pay of these men was about to be reduced. I did not know how much Climpson had been receiving weekly. I received instructions from the Board what to pay.

Mr. Darby objected to this line of examination. The learned counsel had no right to go back into the train from whence their orders came. To show what orders had been given to them at different times did not, he conceived, bear upon the case.

Mr. Cobbett: If I can show that this supposed affray arose upon the spur of the moment, on the sudden reduction of

their pay, I am perfectly at liberty to do so.

Mr. Hurst's examination continued: There were a great many women and children there. The principal part were men. There might be of men, women, and children, nearly 100. The women did not crowd round me in the passage, but many of them did in the road: some of them in the school said I was come down there to starve them. I am quite sure that I was pushed into the cart. I should not have gone in without; never said a word nor remonstrated with them; I thought I had got into the lion's mouth, and had better stroke him a bit. (Laughter). Never talked jocosely with them; never uttered a word. Hollebone and Putland had hold of the cart; Manser was near. After they started with me I did not see Climpson. They made no objection at the end of the half mile to my getting out of the cart; I was four miles from home, and they took me half a mile towards my home. When I got over the stile I said, I believe, "Good night, lads," feeling fearful that they might follow me. They continued to make a noise for a considerable time after I had left them. I have heard that they had somebody else in the cart after I left them. I did not take it as a jocose matter; I did not smile much; I knew it was best to keep in good humour with them till I was released.

By the Court: Climpson was the first in the school, but I don't recollect whether he was by the cart when I started.

Richard Page, a shoemaker, at Willingdon: On the 9. of May I saw Hurst at my door, and begged him not to come in, for fear of having my things broken by the mob. I know the prisoners. I saw the men in the mob at the time the cart left.

Cross-examined: There is a flower-garden and court-yard in front of the house; it is very small, and twenty or thirty people walking in there might do my garden injury, which was the reason for my objecting to Hurst coming in. There were a great number of women and children, a great many more, I should suppose, than men. Did not see Hurst put into the cart.

Mr. Edward Ripppington: I am a farmer at Willingdon; was assistant overseer formerly. Went on the 9. of May to assist Hurst in giving relief. After I got home on that day I saw the mob go down with Hurst in the cart, heard a hallooing and cart-wheels rattle. In consequence of what I saw, I went across the fields to see whether Mr. Hurst was hurt or not.

Cross examined: Was assistant-overseer before Mr. Hurst came to Willingdon. The pay of the paupers was reduced on the 9. of May from what it had been shortly before that time. I should not suppose there were more women and children than men.

By Mr. Darby: The pay, compared with other parishes, has been considered high.

Mr. Cobbett, in the course of his address to the jury, said that he would not seek to justify, as his learned friend might imagine, outrages against the laws; for whatever laws were passed by the Legislature, they ought to be obeyed. He contended that there was not a tittle of evidence against Climpson, and that the evidence adduced against the other prisoners was slight and contradictory.

Mr. Bartholomew: I am a carpenter at Willingdon; am a rate-payer. I saw Mr. Hurst at the hind part of the cart, put his knee upon the cart, turn himself round and sat down. I saw no violence offered; heard the words repeated "Don't hurt him, by no means"; Hurst did not seem alarmed, but looked with a smiling countenance. I did not see the prisoners at the bar; saw the people standing all round the cart; women and children chiefly drew the cart away, some of the men helped.

Cross-examined: I was standing in my own house, five rods from the cart.

Richard Terry: I am a millwright at Willingdon, and a rate-payer. I saw a particular instance on the 9. of May, a man riding in a hand-cart. I saw the prisoners Climpson, Hollebone, and Manser, at the time Hurst got into the cart. Hollebone was in front of the cart about a rod from it, Manser two feet before me and Climpson behind me. I was close to the cart. Did not observe Putland; did not

see the cart come. When it got about fifteen rods away I began to follow it. I overtook it about two rods before the cart stopped. When Hurst got out he thanked them for the ride they had given him. Mr. Hurst said, when he came to relieve the men again, he would bring more money with him, or words to that effect. He did not seem to be terrified at all; observed no disposition in the people to commit a riot or do mischief.

Cross-examined by Mr. Darby: Dragging a man along he considered to be mischief. There was a good deal of noise at the time with the women and children. After he had been to the butcher's he went to get some shop goods. Climpson was a customer. The others had never been inside his house. No person touched the overseer before he got into the cart. Witness overtook the cart about two rods distance from the stile.

Mr. Darby replied, and said it was not necessary that there should be premeditation to constitute a riot, and recapitulated some of the evidence to show that premeditation might be inferred from the conduct of the rioters.

Mr. Seymour summed up, and recapitulated the evidence at length, making remarks on the various points as he proceeded. If they believed the evidence of Mr. Hurst, they must return a general verdict for riot and assault; if, on the contrary, they believed the evidence of Terry, the prisoners must be acquitted, but then they must think the overseer took the ride for his own pleasure, and at its conclusion thanked them for it. The law was very explicit as to what constituted a riot; any person who, by words, signs, or wearing a badge, took part in a riot, was a rioter, and a principal. In riots all were principals. His opinion was, that a riot had been committed, and *that the prisoners were guilty.*

The Jury came to a decision in about a minute, and returned a verdict of *Guilty against all four prisoners.*

The Chairman, in addressing them, said that they had been guilty of a very great offence for if in the course of the riot, Mr. Hurst had been killed, they would all have been guilty of murder; or even if he had been wounded, they would

have been liable to suffer death. The prosecutor was a good-natured man, or resistance might have led to something very serious. The offence was a misdemeanor, but amounted very nearly to high treason in opposing a great public law. The Court had looked for mitigating circumstances, and were happy to find *no injury had been done to the person of the prosecutor*; they (the prisoners) *had been the victims of designing persons who shrunk behind and left them to suffer*. The present was the *first case* of this nature the Court had known for many years, and they would, therefore, avail themselves of that circumstance in mitigation of punishment. The sentence he should pronounce would be, *that each be imprisoned for six months with hard labour, pay a fine of 1s. each to the King, and to be severally bound in the sum of 20l. to keep the peace for two years*.

KENT.

(From the True Sun, 5. June.)

Wednesday, at the first sitting of the Kent Special Sessions, which was holden at St. Augustine's, near Canterbury, the Grand Jury found a true bill against *eighteen persons*, most of whom were labourers, for having been concerned in the riots at Sittingbourne and Doddington, which took place *on the introduction of the new Poor-law Bill* in that district a few weeks ago. In the course of the day, several other true bills were found by the Grand Jury against persons implicated in the same riots. The indictment contained five different counts, and charged the prisoners with riotously assembling *to obstruct the execution of an act of Parliament*. Mr. Bodkin appeared for the prosecution and Mr. Wells for the defence. Several witnesses were called for the prosecution, who stated, that on the 4. of May last the poor of the parish of Doddington had expressed great dissatisfaction at receiving relief, half in kind and half in money, according to the provisions of the new Poor-law Bill, and that a mob of *several hundred persons* had assembled round the workhouse, making use of the most *violent language* against the magistrates. Some of them

were *armed with bludgeons*, and laid *violent hands* on Dr. Poore and General Gosselin, and had also ill-treated such of the paupers as were willing to accept relief in the manner offered by the magistrates and enacted by the Legislature. Mr. Wells was briefly heard in the defence. He thought, he said, that great allowance would be made for excitement amongst persons not having had the benefit of education, in a case where a great change in the political economy, and that change affecting such persons, had taken place. Mr Wells then adverted to the difference between Lord Brougham and one of the Poor-law Commissioners as to the poor-bill authorizing *the separation of man and wife*, and the feeling of many of the working men in court was about to display itself in condemnation of such a separation, but it was immediately repressed. Several of the prisoners received *good characters* from some of the parochial officers of Doddington, and from other persons. The chairman briefly summed up, recapitulating the evidence, and the jury, after a few minutes' consultation, returned a verdict of guilty against all the prisoners, but recommended them to mercy.

(From the same, 6. June.)

During the course of yesterday eight of the rioters, named Staines, Wellar, Hurl, Henry Head, Coveney, Rayfield, Chapel, and Carey, who were tried on the previous day for being concerned in the late riots in Kent, severally entered into their own recognizances, and were discharged out of custody. In the afternoon the remainder of the prisoners who were tried and convicted on Wednesday and Thursday for rioting, were removed to Maidstone and St. Augustine's Houses of Correction, in order to undergo the various terms of imprisonment imposed upon them by the court on Thursday. The number of prisoners tried amounted altogether to *thirty-seven*, out of which twenty-one can neither read nor write, ten can read, and six can read and write. The principal point urged in their behalf was, that most of them did not understand the Poor-law Commissioners' ticket system. The javelin men from Maidstone

attended St. Augustine's during the holding of the session, and arrangements were made to prevent a riot or rescue of the prisoners, if anything of the kind had been attempted. The court was excessively crowded during the trials of the prisoners, and a very painful scene presented itself after the sentences had been passed upon them; *their wives and families*, most of whom bore a very clean appearance, were assembled outside the court, and *gave way to the most bitter anguish*. Considerable excitement continues to prevail in Canterbury among the inhabitants, *and a large meeting will be held at the Lion Hotel, this day, respecting the Poor-law Act*.

Thus it is begun. I told sly ALTHORP that it would be so. I told creeping and peeping PETERS that it would be so. Peeping PETERS ventured to prophesy that I should be wrong. Peeping PETERS has been turned out by the pretty town of BODMIN; and, therefore, I shall scarcely have an opportunity of laughing at peeping PETERS to his face. Would to God that peeping PETERS had to live for the remainder of his life upon the "*gruel*" of pensioned LENNOX, whom, by-the-by, I will go down to see in his chair at WEST HAMPNETT, as soon as I can find time. The following article relates to what they call riots in Bedfordshire. *The Whigs are again in power*, I say; old haughty and insolent GREY's vigour has begun to work again. He is behind the bush all the time. Oh, God! A panic along with this; or along with what this will be in the month of November next! That settles the affair for ever; that will show Sir ROBERT PEEL, that what he regarded as the *eleventh* plague would be a very useful thing.

In the meanwhile the cost goes on! Two-thousand-a year LEWIS, penny-a-line CHADWICK, Lord RADNOR's relation, A'COURT, and the rest of this crew and their predecessors, with the two bishops at their head, have already cost more than the poor-rates of *five considerable counties for one year*; so the sly ALTHORP seemed to know not much more about the matter than one of his oxen. This cost will go on increasing; and as to building the new and great poor-houses,

the beggars of carcass-butchers and poulterers, called landlords, have no more the means of doing it, than they have of paying off a tenth part of their mortgages.

BEDFORDSHIRE.

(From the Times.)

The relieving officer of the western division of the Ampthill Union entered on his duties for the first time on Monday, when he rode to Ledlington, to arrange respecting the paupers, and on his arrival received the treatment as detailed in the evidence below. On Tuesday he proceeded to Milbrook, where he met with a similar reception, and was assaulted by the mob, and compelled to seek shelter. Mr. Cardale and his son accompanied the relieving officer, Mr. Osborn, down the village, when the mob continued their threats and vociferations so violently that the three gentlemen were again obliged to take shelter. The paupers had collected in numbers, and their threats were so outrageous that Mr. Osborn would not venture to make his appearance again that day, but remained concealed until night, when he went home by stealth. On Wednesday half-a-dozen constables proceeded to Ledlington, to take two women and some men into custody. They succeeded in apprehending the former, when they were met by about two hundred paupers, who threatened instant revenge unless the women were rescued. The constables, seeing the hopelessness of resistance, allowed their prisoners to escape. A number of special constables were sworn during the week, and, to their shame be it spoken, thirty respectable men preferred paying the fine of 5*l.* to risking their persons. Thursday was the day for the meeting of the guardians, and accordingly they assembled at the Ampthill House of Industry, at twelve. They had not been long in deliberation, when the paupers, men, women, and children, came flocking in from all quarters in great numbers, many of them armed with bludgeons, sticks, &c. Several of the men told the guardians that they wanted work, and to be paid for it in money, but that they would not take relief in bread. They were told that their demand for money could

not be complied with, when they commenced a most desperate attack upon the windows with stones, brickbats, cabbage-stalks, and every missile that could be found. Many of the guardians attempted to address the mob, who amounted to between 300 and 500, but could not obtain a hearing. Stones continued to shower against the windows, and in the room where the guardians assembled several gentlemen were hurt; and one in particular, whose eyes were much cut with broken glass. At twenty-five minutes past one o'clock, H. M. Musgrave, Esq., a magistrate, president of the board, and whose firmness and resolution at this critical juncture have been highly applauded, boldly advanced into the mob, and in two places read the Riot Act. This had only a partial effect, for on the guardians proceeding from the House of Industry to the King's Arms, they were followed by a large concourse of people, shouting and threatening all the way. Opposite the inn, in the middle of the market-place, a regular fight took place between the special constables and the mob; as often as the former took prisoners, they were rescued by the latter. The magistrates and guardians now deeming the local authorities insufficient to overpower such numbers as had then collected, D. G. Adey, Esq., went off express for London, to request assistance from Government; and Mr. Græme, the auditor to the Union, was also dispatched at five a. m. on Thursday, for a body of the metropolitan police, who arrived, twenty-two in number, on Friday morning. They were shortly afterwards dispatched, accompanied by H. M. Musgrave, Esq., and a number of special constables on horseback, in search of the ringleaders, and between four and five in the afternoon returned, with several of both sexes in custody. The charges were immediately proceeded with before the following magistrates: Rev. G. Cardale, Rev. T. Barber, Rev. J. Beard, G. Musgrave, and H. M. Musgrave, Esq.

Mary Walker, Amelia Gulliver, Hannah Reed, and Elizabeth Henman, were first put to the bar, charged with rioting and tumultuously assembling, &c., at Ledlington, on Monday last, the 11th inst.—

Mr. Osborn deposed that he went to Ledlington, to make inquiry if he could find work for the surplus labourers; made an appointment with the overseer, and on arriving at his house, found the prisoners at the bar at the gate. They said, "We don't want you, we'll have money or blood, and before you leave this we'll have either the money out of your pocket, or the blood out of your veins." Witness remonstrated, and told them he had no orders to relieve them. They still cried out, "Money or blood." He then went into another room. One of the women said she knew witness had got money, and while he was surrounded she put her hand into his pocket and took out 4*l.* odd. A lad called out, "If he don't give us a shilling each, we'll have his blood before we go." Witness gave all the money he had, from fear only.—John Ruffhead saw Osborn surrounded by the women. Believes Osborn relieved them from bodily fear only. Heard them say "Blood or money" several times. There were about forty men backing the women, and all calling out "Blood or money."—W. Kingston was present at Bosworth's on Monday; heard cries of "Money or blood," and some, alluding to the relieving officer, called out "Neck him." Saw John Reed, J. R. Perkins, W. Turner, Michael Reed, and John Beale.—The Bench remarked that this witness seemed afraid to give his evidence.—Witness denied that he was.—In defence, the women said they cried out, "We'll have money, or lose our blood." One or two remonstrated on the hardship of being obliged to leave their families.—The Bench consulted, and the four prisoners were committed for the riot.

Two men have been committed for the *capital* offence in continuing the riot after the Riot Act was read.

BERKSHIRE.

I have an account of the proceedings of a poor-law commissioner, and of one MOUNT, a magistrate, whose progenitor was a Government stationer in the times of PITT and paper-money. I am very much obliged to my correspondent at NEWBURY; especially for the copy of the

letter of the poor-law runner, whose name appears to be HALL.

It is information like this that I want; and to this object we ought all to direct our undivided attention. This is the real struggle. A farce, a despicable farce, compared with this, is the "corporation reform"; and all the nonsense about political rights. Here we are contesting the great point of all: have we a right to LIVE in England, or have we not? I do beseech my correspondents to be zealous and active, and to give me plain and clear information of the movements of the poor-law runners and their abettors. *Names, names, names!* wherever you possibly can do it; and tell me how the named persons got their estates, if you can. If they put forth any publications, be sure to send them to me. The diet-scale of pensioned LENNOX, and his auction-bill for selling off the brewing and meat-preparing utensils, these are invaluable; and sorry I am that I shall not now have an opportunity of thrusting them up under the nose of sly ALTHORP, or that of his equally sly friend, RADNOR. Apropos of friend RADNOR, who has surprised me more than all the rest of mankind have ever surprised me; but I cannot blink my duty; let who will suffer, I must do my duty. Apropos, then, of sly RADNOR, who has a large estate close adjoining the parish of FARRINGTON, in Berkshire; and I hear that there is a *Poor-law union established at FARRINGTON*. Now, I want all the particulars about this union regularly stated. Not in a loose rambling letter, but in due order, according to the manner in which I state such things; and particularly I want the *names* of all the moving actors, and the *diet-scale*, in print, if possible. In conclusion, for the present, let it always be borne in mind, that I am contending against proceedings which abrogate an ancient and the most sacred institution of England: let that be remembered; and let it not be supposed that I shall not be cordially joined by all the true friends of English law and English liberty; and let no one expect that we shall not finally succeed in all our lawful and laudable undertakings.

MR. CAYLEY'S MOTION.

(From the Morning Herald, 4. instant.)

"Of the Bill which made it imperative on the public to pay in an enhanced gold currency the interest of an enormous debt, contracted for the most part in a depreciated paper currency—of the Bill which gave the country a restricted peace currency with an overwhelming war taxation—of the Bill which defrauded every man who had borrowed money in paper, by compelling him to pay nearly one-third more in gold—of the unjust and mischievous Bill, commonly called Peel's Bill, but was the Bill of HUSKISSON, RICARDO, BROUGHAM, and other Whig political economists, as well as of Peel, we have never expressed but one opinion, and that opinion we have found no reason to alter. On the contrary, our first impressions are corroborated by every day's experience, that no single measure of the Legislature, adopted in an evil hour, and under some strange infatuation, ever worked more injustice, or, was productive of more extensive suffering.

"All debtors were defrauded by that bill, because every man who borrowed money in depreciated paper, was compelled to pay the same nominal amount in the enhanced metallic currency; and though much obloquy and ridicule have been cast upon Mr. COBBETT for insisting at that time upon an 'equitable adjustment' of contracts; yet we must say, whether such adjustment was practicable or not, its principle was founded in justice. Mr. RICARDO, who, next to Mr. HORNER, the idol of the *Edinburgh Review*, was the oracle of the Whig economists at that time, predicted that the difference in the currency caused by the bill would be only three or four per cent. It is now proved to be between THIRTY AND FORTY per cent. Let us take it at thirty-three or one third per cent.; and what is to be said of the honesty of those who passed the bill, if they understood its operation; what is to be said of their wisdom if they did not, when it is now, and has long been manifest, that every

"debtor, for each 100*l.*, borrowed in depreciated bank notes, has been obliged by this bill to pay 133*l.* in the gold currency which it substituted. In the same proportion too were the taxes of the country raised, while the prices of commodities fell; so that when Ministers, whether Whig or Tory, tell us of the quantity of taxation taken off since the war, we must tell them, in return, that they do not state the account fairly unless they add to the present amount of taxation the difference of value caused by the change in the currency, and which has in reality increased that taxation by a sum between fifteen and twenty millions."

The writer then goes on to object to any alteration of that bill *now*, seeing that, although the introduction of that bill caused the debtors of 1819 to be defrauded, other contracts have been formed since, and new relations have arisen, &c. He says, distress and discontent existed during 1817, 1818 and 1819, and "as long as the enormous debt presses on this country, there must always be a great struggle imposed upon the national industry to bear up under the weight of national taxation. That struggle would indubitably be less severe with a less restricted currency than the present one, and one not dependent upon the arbitrary issues of an autocratic monied monopoly like the Bank of England; but, at the same time, a currency established on a sounder principle, as to the issues of private banks, than that which existed previously to the bill of 1819."

"* * * * But low as the prices are, what would they be if the doctrines of the Whig economists were carried into practice, and the markets of England inundated with foreign corn? In that case the workhouses should be considerably enlarged, that English farmers, along with their labourers, might enjoy the tender mercies of the Poor-law Bill, while foreigners were exchanging their corn for English gold, and the plough of our native country rotted in the uncultivated land."

"* * * * But though the sub-

ject of an alteration of the currency is one surrounded with difficulties, it is one which is too important not to be deserving of the most serious attention of our statesmen, who ought not to form their opinions upon it rashly, or adhere to them with bigoted or sullen obstinacy in spite of experience. * * *

It is not, indeed, a party question. It ought to be investigated without party prejudice. A better regulation of the currency than what exists at present, while the Bank of England can contract or enlarge the issues at its arbitrary will and pleasure, seems to be generally admitted to be a necessary reform; but what that precise regulation ought to be is a question about which there exists certainly much difference of opinion, and we fear that its public discussion will be productive of little good, until a better spirit and clearer powers of reason are brought to its consideration, than any connected with political animosities and sectarian prejudices. One thing is quite certain, that not only our currency, but our whole financial system wants reform; and it is the want of such reform that gives more impetus and force to the mischievous rage for experimental changes in our institutions at the present day than any other cause whatever. But where is the statesman who has the wisdom to grapple with those subjects well, and the boldness to undertake the task?"

From the LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JUNE 5.

BANKRUPTS.

BEGBIE, J., Cartwright-street, Rosemary-lane, victualler.

BLENKIN, G., Kingston-upon-Hull, merchant.

BRADBEER, F. H., Salisbury, draper.

BRAITHWAITE, W., Grafton-street, Fitzroy-square, stationer.

COBB, J., St. Anne's-place, Commercial-road, Limehouse, stage-coach-master.

CLARK, G., Stonecutter-street, Farringdon-street, shoe-maker.

KAY, J., Liverpool, coal-merchant.

LOVETT, W., Chesterfield, Derbyshire, inn-keeper.

MUELLER, C. H., Norwich, music-seller.
 NOBLE, J., Westgate, Northumberland, ship-owner.
 TILLEY, R., King-street, Holborn, coach-maker.
 WARD, J., jun., Little Sheffield, victualler.

TUESDAY, JUNE 9.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

POLLARD, W., Manchester, commission-agent.

BANKRUPTS.

BUSBY, T., Green-street, next Sittingborne, Kent, grocer.
 DORMAN, J., Frederick's-place, Old Kent-road, china and glass-dealer.
 HALL, G., Trowse Newton, Norfolk, builder.
 HANKINSON, T., Macclesfield, grocer and flour-dealer.
 LACEY, E., Loughborough, baker.
 LEVETT, W., sen., and W. Levett, jun., Kingston-upon-Hull, merchants and grocers.
 NORTH, W., Kingston-upon-Hull, merchant.
 PEARSON, R., Blackburn, muslin-manufacturer.
 PERKINS, E., Northampton, gardener and victualler.
 SUTTON, W., Birmingham, brass-founder.
 TURNER, T. S., Weymouth-terrace, Hackney, builder.

LONDON MARKETS.

MARK-LANE, CORN-EXCHANGE, June 8.—We have had a very large arrival of Scotch and Irish Oats since this day week, but only moderate of Wheat and other articles. The weather since Friday has changed from cold and wet to very fine and hot.

Wheat met a heavy sale this morning at a reduction of 1s. to 2s. per quarter from last Monday's prices.

In Barley, Beans, and Peas, no alteration. Malt dull, and 1s. per quarter lower.

We experienced a dull, limited demand for Oats to-day, at a decline of 1s. per quarter from the terms of this day week; we expect to see our supplies fall off, particularly from Scotland.

In Corn under lock nothing doing.

Wheat, English, White, new	....	38s. to 46s.
Old	.....	48s. to 50s.
Red, new	.....	36s. to 38s.
Old	.....	40s. to 41s.
Lincolnshire, red	.....	36s. to 41s.
White	.....	42s. to 44s.
Yorkshire	.....	35s. to 38s.
Northumberl. & Berwick	.....	36s. to 38s.
Fine white	.....	38s. to 40s.
Dundee & choice Scotch	.....	38s. to 40s.
Irish red, good	.....	32s. to 36s.
White	.....	36s. to 38s.

Rye	.....	30s. to 32s.
Barley, English, grinding	.....	24s. to 28s.
Distilling	.....	28s. to 30s.
Malting	.....	32s. to 35s.
Chevalier	.....	36s. to 38s.
Malt	.....	44s. to 54s.
Fine new	.....	56s. to 64s.
Beans, Tick, new	.....	36s. to 38s.
Harrow	.....	38s. to 40s.
Peas, White, English	.....	34s. to 36s.
Foreign	.....	33s. to 35s.
Gray or Hog	.....	34s. to 36s.
Maples	.....	36s. to 38s.
Oats, Polands	.....	23s. to 26s.
Lincolnshire, short small	.....	24s. to 25s.
Lincolnshire, feed	.....	23s. to 24s.
Yorkshire, feed	.....	24s. to 25s.
Black	.....	25s. to 26s.
Northumberland and Berwick Potato	.....	26s. to 27s.
Ditto, Angus	.....	25s. to 26s.
Banff and Aberdeen, com.	.....	26s. to 27s.
Potato	.....	27s. to 28s.
Irish Potato, new	.....	22s. to 23s.
Feed, new light	.....	19s. to 21s.
Black, new	.....	22s. to 23s.
Foreign feed	.....	22s. to 24s.
Danish & Pomeranian, old	.....	20s. to 22s.
Petersburgh, Riga, &c.	.....	22s. to 24s.
Foreign, in bond, feed	.....	13s. to 14s.
Brew	.....	16s. to 18s.

SMITHFIELD, June 1.

In this day's market, which exhibited of each kind of fat stock a great holiday supply, trade was, throughout, very dull; with Beef at a depression of from 2d. to fully 6d. Veal 2d. per stone; with Mutton, Lamb, and Pork, at barely Friday's quotations.

About 2,200 of the Beasts, a full moiety of which were Scots, the remainder about equal numbers of Shorthorns, homebreds, Devons, and Welsh runts, were chiefly (say about 1,500 of them) from Norfolk; the remainder from Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire; about 100, chiefly polled Scots, by steamers from Scotland; about 120, chiefly Shorthorns, Devons, and runts, with a few Irish beasts, from our northern districts; about 140, chiefly Devons and runts, with a few Herefords and Irish beasts, from our western and midland districts; about 120, in about equal numbers of Devons, runts, Sussex, and Irish beasts, from Kent, Sussex, and Surrey; and most of the remainder, including about 40 lusty Townsend Cows, from the stall-feeders, &c. near London.

A full moiety of the Sheep were new Leicesters, in about equal numbers of the Southdown and white-faced crosses, about a fourth Southdowns, and the remainder in about equal numbers of old Leicesters, Kent and Kentish half-breds, with a few pens of old Lincolns, horned and polled Norfolk horned Dorsets and Somersets, horned and polled Scotch and Welsh Sheep, &c.

The Lambs, in number about 5,500, consisted of about equal numbers of South Downs, new Leicesters and Dorsets, with a few pens of Kentish half-breds, and sundry other casual breeds.

Per stone of 8lbs. sinking offal.

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Inferior Beef	2	0	to	2 2
Ditto Mutton	2	4	to	2 6
Middling Beef	2	6	to	2 10
Ditto Mutton	2	6	to	3 0
Prime Beef	3	6	to	3 10
Ditto Mutton	3	6	to	4 0
Veal	3	0	to	4 4
Pork	3	0	to	4 0
Lamb	5	0	to	6 0

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